



THE APOSTLE OF SILVER CHOSEN BY THE DEMOCRACY

As Their Candidate for the Presidency--No Opposition
in the Convention to His Selection.

PLATFORM SPECIFIC FOR FREE COINAGE OF SILVER

At the Ratio of 16 to 1--Plainly a Victory for the Populistic
Element of the Party--Many of the Leaders Condemn the
Action of the Committee, and the Party is Doomed to a
Greater Defeat Than It Experienced Four Years Ago--Gen.
Warner Says They Cannot Carry a Single Doubtful State,
and the East and South Will Give McKinley an Overwhelm-
ing Majority--Story of the Day and Night's Proceedings.

CONVENTION HALL, KANSAS CITY, Mo., July 5.--Convention hall was again besieged to-day by eager and excited thousands and long before the time set for opening the second day's proceedings of the convention all of the streets approaching the buildings were solidly massed with humanity, moving forward to the many entrances. Expectancy was at a high pitch, as it was universally felt that the day had in store the great events of the convention.

By 10 o'clock, thirty minutes before the time set for the opening of the convention, nearly every seat in the galleries was occupied.

The delegates were much more deliberate, and came in slowly. The word had gotten abroad that there would be a fight on the floor over the adoption of the platform, and anticipating a session which would be long and hard after it had once begun, they preferred to come only at the last minute, that their stay in the crowded hall might be made no longer than necessary. The crowd was anxious to see Senator Hill and on two occasions when a bald-headed man came through the door leading to the delegates' seats, they set up the cry of "Hill!" which had proved so sensational a feature at both sessions yesterday. The senator, however, was one of the last of the New York delegation to arrive.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

Police Arrangements Improved.
The police arrangements of the hall were a decided improvement over those that characterized the opening of the convention yesterday. During the session on Wednesday dense crowds of spectators were allowed to congregate in front of the speakers' stand in front of the press seats, and up and down the aisles. These were at times so densely packed that it was impossible to pass through them at all. These people were also largely responsible for the confusion that made it utterly impossible, during the greater part of the sessions yesterday for the voice of any man to be heard ten feet from the rostrum.

person, who in the present day was personified by William J. Bryan.

Mayor Rose made a strong appeal to the convention to remember the great army of German voters throughout the United States. Those voters, he declared, held the balance of power between the Democratic and Republican parties. "We believe that we can secure their co-operation," he said with earnestness, "and this convention ought to hold out to them every inducement to stand by us."

Fight of Campaign in East and South

The fight of the approaching campaign was to be made, he maintained, east of the Mississippi river and north of the Ohio and he warned the convention that unless the Democratic party could carry some of those states victory would scarcely be possible. This statement was received with cheers from not only the audience, but from the delegates.

"Hill," "Hill," came the cry again as Mr. Rose concluded, but the New Yorker was not present and the bands broke out with the "Star Spangled Banner." The patriotic strains had no sooner subsided than another Hill wave passed over the assemblage.

Chairman Richardson and Sergeant-at-Arms Martin moved up and down the front of the platform, gesticulating wildly and making pantomime appeals for order. When the Hill demonstration had calmed the chairman introduced J. E. McCullough, of Indianapolis, for another speech on current public questions.

He said only a few words, and then, perceiving George Fred Williams on the stand in whispered conference with the chairman, the audience called wildly for the young leader from the old Bay State, while another element continued the demand for Hill.

When quiet was partially secured the chair recognized Williams, who submitted a resolution reading:

"That a committee of nine delegates be appointed by the chair for the purpose of conferring with the silver Republicans and the Populist parties now gathered in Kansas City."

Shouts of "no," "no," followed the reading, but the resolution was put to a vote and amid much confusion on the floor, was declared adopted.

Congressman James Williams, of Illinois, was then introduced by Chairman Richardson. He opened his remarks by an appeal to all Democrats to stand together on one platform, which he declared would be broad enough to hold them all. He spoke briefly and was frequently applauded. As Mr. Williams took his seat Chairman Richardson announced "We will now be addressed by Governor J. W. Beckham, of Kentucky."

Applauded the Young Governor.
Instantly there was a roar of applause and delegates, and spectators springing upon their chairs to get a better view of the young governor of Kentucky waved their hats and handkerchiefs frantically.

The greeting was a fitting counterpart to the reception given to Governor Taylor, of Kentucky, in Philadelphia. When Governor Beckham reached the stand where all could see him, he was given a reception as enthusiastic as any extended by the delegates to any speaker who has thus far addressed the convention.

The galleries did not respond with the same heartiness. The new governor of Kentucky is a man of five feet nine or ten, slender and clean shaven. He was dressed in a modest sack suit of dark serge and spoke slowly and with deliberation, evidently weighing his words carefully.

His first assertion that in his opinion the enthusiastic reception extended to him was due not to him personally, but to "the outraged Democracy" of his state, called forth another roar of applause which was equalled a moment later when he promised that Kentucky would be carried safely for the Democratic party; his remark that of late there had been a considerable exodus of criminals from his state evoked laughter and applause and a few cries of "Taylor."

"Dose of Republican Rule."
"We have had such a dose of Republican rule," said the speaker, "that Kentucky is prepared to accept any platform which the Democratic party will present. No matter what the platform may be, Kentucky will stand upon it, and win through its principles."

He turned to leave the stand and was met with loud cries of "go on," but the young governor only bowed, and left the platform.

After the cheers with which Governor Beckham's speech was received had subsided, one of the delegates in Montana started the tune of old song, "My Old Kentucky Home," and one verse of it was sung with vigor, the singing being followed by great cheering as the young governor resumed his seat.

Chairman Richardson, at the conclusion of the demonstration, introduced Hon. J. W. Miles, of Maryland, who addressed the convention in support of conservative action upon the platform. While the rural Democracy of his state he said, would stand by that great tribune of the people, William Jennings Bryan, he begged the convention that it take no action that would imperil the chances of victory for Mr. Bryan.

Who are Bryan's Friends?
His heart was beating, he said, in time with every principle of the Chicago platform, but he felt that such friends of Bryan as Senator John Danford, of Virginia, whose fealty was beyond question, ought to be listened to by those who had any desire of carrying such states as New York, Indiana, Illinois and West Virginia.

"In the name of God," he shouted, warning, "if the men in these states who stood by Mr. Bryan in 1896, are not his friends, where are his friends to be found?"

As Mr. Miles concluded, Chairman

(Continued on Second Page.)

DEMOCRATS DECLARE FOR FREE SILVER.

Platform Adopted Calls for Free
Coinage of the White Metal
at Ratio of 16 to 1.

ONE OF THE LEADING ISSUES.

Condemns So-Called Imperialism and
Trusts--Opposed to Expansion and
Aggression Against Filipinos.

KANSAS CITY, July 5.--Following is the platform adopted without a dissenting voice by the Democratic national convention to-day:

We, the representatives of the Democratic party of the United States, assembled in national convention on the anniversary of the adoption of the declaration of independence, do reaffirm our faith in that immortal proclamation of inalienable rights of man and our allegiance to the constitution framed in harmony therewith by the fathers of the republic. We hold with the United States supreme court that the declaration of independence is the spirit of our government of which the constitution is the form and letter. We declare again that all governments instituted among men derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, that any government not based upon the consent of the governed is a tyranny; and that to impose upon any people a government of force is to substitute the methods of imperialism for those of a republic. We hold that the constitution follows the flag and denounce the doctrine that an executive or Congress deriving their existence and their powers from the constitution can exercise lawful authority beyond it, or in violation of it. We assert that no nation can long endure half republic and half empire, and we warn the American people that imperialism abroad will lead quickly and inevitably to despotism at home.

Denounces the Porto Rico Law.
Believing in these fundamental principles, we denounce the Porto Rico law enacted by a Republican Congress against the protest and opposition of the Democratic minority as a bold and open violation of the nation's organic law and a flagrant breach of the national good faith. It imposes upon the people of Porto Rico a government without their consent and taxation without representation. It dishonors the American people by repudiating a solemn pledge made in their behalf by the commanding general of our army, which the Porto Ricans welcome to a peaceful and unrestricted occupation of their land. It dooms to poverty and distress a people whose helplessness appeals with peculiar force to our justice and magnanimity. In this the first act of its imperialist program, the Republican party seeks to commit the United States to a colonial policy inconsistent with republican institutions and condemned by the supreme court in numerous decisions.

Clause Relating to Cuba.
We demand the prompt and honest fulfillment of our pledge to the Cuban people and the world that the United States has no disposition nor intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over the island of Cuba except for its pacification. The war ended nearly two years ago, profound peace reigns all over the island and still the administration keeps the government of it, and from its people, while Republican carpet-bag officials plunder its revenues and exploit the colonial people to the disgrace of the American people.

We condemn and denounce the Philippine policy of the present administration. It has involved in unnecessary war, sacrificed the lives of many of our noblest sons and placed the United States previously known and applauded throughout the world as the champion of freedom, in the false and un-American position of crushing with military force the efforts of former allies to achieve liberty and self government. The Philippines cannot be citizens without endangering our civilization; they cannot be subjects without imperilling our form of government, and as we are not willing to surrender our civilization or to convert the republic into an empire, we favor an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to give to the Philippines first, a stable form of government, second, independence and third, protection from outside interference such as has been given for nearly a century to the republics of Central and South America.

Touches Philippine Annexation.
The greedy commercialism which dictated the Philippine policy of the Republican administration admits to justify it with the plea that it will pay, but even this sordid and unworthy plea falls when brought to the test of facts. The war of criminal aggression against the Philippines, entailing an annual expense of many millions, has already cost more than any possible profit that could accrue from the entire Philippine trade for years to come. Furthermore when trade is extended at the expense of liberty the price is always too high.

We are not opposed to territorial expansion when it takes in desirable territory which can be erected into states in the Union and whose people are willing and fit to become American citizens. We favor expansion by every peaceful and legitimate means. But we are unalterably opposed to seizing or purchasing of distant islands to be governed outside the constitution and whose people can never become citizens.

We reaffirm and endorse the principles

(Continued on Second Page.)

public's influence among the nations, but believe that influence should be extended, not by force and violence, but through the persuasive power of a high and honorable example. The importance of other questions now pending before the American people is in nowise diminished and the Democratic party takes no backward step from its position on them, but the burning issue of imperialism growing out of the Spanish war involves the very existence of the republic and the destruction of our free institutions. We regard it as the paramount issue of the campaign.

The declaration in the Republican platform adopted at the Philadelphia convention held in June, 1900, that the Republican party "steadfastly adheres to the policy announced in the Monroe doctrine," is manifestly insincere and deceptive. The profession is contradicted by the avowed policy of that party in opposition to the spirit of the Monroe doctrine to acquire and hold sovereignty over large areas of territory and large numbers of people in the eastern hemisphere. We insist on the strict maintenance of the Monroe doctrine and in all its integrity, both in letter and in spirit, as necessary to prevent the extension of European authority on this continent and as essential to our supremacy in American affairs. At the same time we declare that no American people shall ever be held by force in unwilling subjection to European authority.

Militarism Means Conquest Abroad.
We oppose militarism. It means conquest abroad and intimidation and oppression at home. It means the strong arm which has ever been fatal to free institutions. It is what millions of our citizens have fled from in Europe. It will impose upon our peace loving people a large standing army and unnecessary burden of taxation and a constant menace to their liberties. A small standing army and a well disciplined state militia are amply sufficient in time of peace. This republic has no place for a vast military service and conscription, when the nation is in danger the volunteer soldier is his country's best defender. The national guard of the United States should ever be cherished in the patriotic hearts of a free people. Such organizations are ever an element of strength and safety. For the first time in our history and coeval with the Philippine conquest has there been a wholesale departure from our time-honored and approved system of volunteer organization. We denounce it as un-American, un-Democratic and un-Republican, and as a subversion of the ancient and fixed principles of a free people. Private monopolies are indefensible and intolerable. They destroy competition, control the price of all material, and of the finished product, thus robbing both producer and consumer. They lessen the employment of labor, and arbitrarily fix the terms and conditions thereof and deprive individual energy and small capital of their opportunity for betterment.

All Wealth Will be Aggregated.
They are the most efficient means yet devised for appropriating the fruits of industry to the benefit of the few at the expense of the many and unless their insatiable greed is checked all wealth will be aggregated in a few hands and the republic destroyed.

The dishonest paltering with the trust evil by the Republican party in state and national platforms is conclusive proof of the truth of the charge that trusts are the legitimate product of Republican policies, that they are fostered by the Republican administration in return for campaign subscriptions and political support.

We pledge the Democratic party to an unceasing warfare in nation, state and city against private monopoly, in every form. Existing laws against trusts must be enforced and more stringent ones must be enacted providing for publicity as to the affairs of corporations engaged in inter-state commerce and requiring all corporations to show, before doing business outside of the state of their origin, that they have no water in their stock, and that they have not attempted and are not attempting, to monopolize any branch of business of the production of any articles of merchandise, and the whole constitutional power of Congress over inter-state commerce, the mails and all modes of inter-state communication shall be exercised by the enactment of comprehensive laws upon the subject of trusts. Tariff laws should be amended by putting the products of trusts upon the free list to prevent monopoly under the plea of protection.

Failure to Control the Trusts.
The failure of the present Republican administration with an absolute control over all the branches of the national government, to enact any legislation designed to prevent or even curtail the absorbing power of trusts and illegal combinations, or to enforce the anti-trust laws already on the statute books prove the insincerity of the high sounding phrases of the Republican platform.

Corporations should be protected in all their rights and their legitimate interests should be respected, but any attempt by corporations to interfere with the public affairs of the people or to control the sovereignty which creates them should be forbidden under such penalties as will make such attempts impossible.

We condemn the Dingley tariff law as a trust-breeding measure, skillfully devised to give the few favors which they do not deserve and to place upon the many burdens which they should not bear. We favor such an enlargement of the scope of the inter-state commerce law as will enable the commission to protect individuals and communities from discriminations and the public from unjust and unfair transportation rates.

We reaffirm and endorse the principles

(Continued on Second Page.)

MASSACRE OF ALL WHITES WITHIN PEKIN'S CONFINES

Being Retold With Circumstantiality That Almost Con-
vinces Those Who Have Disbelieved.

IF TRAGEDY HAS NOT OCCURRED, IT IS IMMINENT.

Holding of Tien Tsin the Question of a Few Days--Chinese Army
Amazes the World--Blame of the Horrible Butcheries Placed
Upon the Shoulders of Prince Tuan--May Not be Able to
Send Rescuing Army Up the Pei Ho Until Autumn--Minister
Wu Fears Every Foreigner in the Capital Has Been Killed.

LONDON, July 6, 2:30 a. m.--The story that all foreigners in Pekin were murdered on June 30 or July 1, appears to be circulating simultaneously at Chefoo, Shanghai and Tien Tsin. Yet, as it is not confirmed by official dispatches and is not traceable to the southern viceroys, who are still in certain communication with Pekin, there is a basis for the hope that it is untrue.

Cautious observers at Shanghai recognize that even though these reports are rejected, events in Pekin must be galloping to a tragic end. Correspondents of the Express, at Shanghai gather details from Chinese sources, which place together, relate that when the foreigners' ammunition was exhausted the boxers and imperial troops rushed the British legation and poured into the courtyard with fanatical fury. The foreign troops were so helplessly outnumbered, that their fate was certain. The moment the mob broke the courtyard was converted into a shambles. Others of the invaders spread into the interior of the building. One correspondent adds:

Whispering Terrible Story Under Their Breath.
"It is only left to hope that in the final advance of the murderous hordes the men of the legations had time to stay with their own hands their womankind and children. The Chinese are whispering the terrible story under their breath. Their attitude towards foreigners in the streets has undergone a strange change.

The demeanor of the better class of Chinese, is one of pity, rather than of triumph. Even the rabble in the native quarters are silent.

"Something of this culminating tragedy in the ghastly history of recent events in Pekin seems to pervade the very atmosphere here and to compel belief against all our hopes. The consuls fear that the report is too true, and the Chinese officials do not attempt to seek reasons for a denial."

The Emperor Took Poison.
Two Manchus who have arrived at Shanghai certify to the truth of the statement that Prince Tuan visited the palace and offered the emperor and the dowager empress the alternative of poison or the sword. The emperor, they say, took poison and died within an hour. The dowager empress also chose poison, but craftily, swallowed only a portion of what was offered her, and survived. On the same day the Chinese customs bureau was destroyed, Sir Robert Hart, the inspector of customs and his staff, escaping to the legations.

Intense indignation is felt in Shanghai against the supposed action of the powers in restraining Japan from sending an army to Pekin immediately. The powers are accused of being as guilty of murder as are Prince Tuan's fanatics, and Sir Robert Hart is blamed for not having informed the foreigners of the immense power of arms, especially a few weeks ago.

The Chinese commanders are preparing for a long, severe campaign, and are putting into operation plans drawn up by German officers last year for resisting an invasion from the seaboard by Russia.

LONDON, July 5.--The oft-repeated story of the massacre of all the whites in Pekin is being retold to-day with circumstantiality that almost convinces those who have hitherto refused to credit the sickening tales. The only hopeful feature of the evil news is the fact that it comes from Chinese sources at Shanghai, but it is realized that even if the tragedy has not yet been enacted it cannot long be delayed unless help comes from unknown sources. Even the holding of Tien Tsin against the overwhelming hordes now seems to be a very remote possibility, while the safety of other treaty ports is seriously threatened.

A dispatch from Chefoo, dated yesterday, voices a fear that in view of the imminence of summer rains it will be impossible for the joint forces to advance to Pekin until autumn.

International Loss was Heavy.
According to the reports from Shanghai, the Chinese army on a march toward Pekin, has reached Lofa. This is presumably General Nieh Shi Chang's forces enroute to attack Tien Tsin. Another force of thirty thousand Chinese from Lufai has appeared north-east of Tien Tsin, and is reported to have been driven back by the combined forces of Russia and Japan. The losses of the internationals were heavy.

The native city, when captured, was a horrible spectacle. Chinese bodies lying thick around the guns.

The situation in Kwang-Tung (or eastern province) grows worse. Li

Hung Chang is said to be trying to raise a force of 200,000 militia.

Anarchy is widespread in the province of Shan-Tung, in spite of the efforts of Yuan-Shanki, the governor, to control the revolt. Happily, a band of thirty-five Americans and other missionaries reached Tsin Tau safely, July 3.

Viceroy Liu is reported to be freely executing disturbers of the peace at Nankai.

The German chamber of commerce of Shanghai has warned Emperor William not to underestimate the gravity of the situation, but to send troops proportionately with the forces of the other powers.

Chinese Destroyed the Railroad.
A body of 30,000 Chinese troops from Lu Tai have destroyed the railway north and east of Tien Tsin. Japanese and Russian troops drove them off but were unable to follow up their advantage on account of lack of food and water.

A statement is published in Berlin that the Chinese have already taken Tien Tsin, but a cable dispatch from Shanghai, dated July 4, 9:35 p. m., shows that according to the latest advice the city is still in the hands of the international troops though the Chinese forces continued their attempt to isolate them, as they did at Pekin. They were receiving constant accessions, many troops arriving from Manchuria. The dispatch adds that Colonel Wogack, commanding the Russians at Tien Tsin, was almost exhausted. He had been there three days and nights in the saddle directing the operations of the foreign troops.

Count Deym, the Austrian ambassador, called on Mr. Choate to-day, and they exchanged views concerning the policies of their respective governments in China.

Minister Wu Blames Prince Tuan.
WASHINGTON, July 5.--Minister Wu asserts that the edicts said to have been promulgated by the empress, declaring war upon foreign nations, are forgeries, for which Prince Tuan and his party are probably responsible. He is without news from China, but believes that the viceroys will not accept the edicts. He expresses his sorrow at the report of Minister Conger's assassination, but insists that his government is in no way responsible for the acts of lawless rebels. He says on this point:

"My government has its hands tied. They are unable to handle the mobs, as many of the soldiers they send to attack them become disintegrated or are already so for some reason, and desert to the enemy of the government. What could one possibly do under the circumstances? It would be just the same here in Washington. Should a mob attack one of the legations or your white house and the soldiers sent to suppress it should join the mob, what could be done to prevent such damage? This is just the situation in China to-day."

That the relief column has not before this pushed on to the rescue of foreigners in Peking excites Minister Wu's wonder. With 15,000 troops, he thinks there would have been no difficulty a week ago in reaching the capital. He now fears that every foreigner in the capital has been murdered.

Oregon Officer in Command.
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 5.--The navy department has received the following cablegram from Admiral Kempff, at Chefoo:

"Myers, of the Oregon, commands the force in Peking. Captain Hall and Dr. Lippitt also are there."

Big Fire for Standard Oil Company.
NEW YORK, July 5.--More than two and a half million dollars damage has already been done and a number of persons have been severely burned by a fire that started in the works of the Standard Oil Company at Constable Hook, Bayonne, N. J., early this morning. Twenty-three large oil tanks, fifteen union tank line cars, the crude oil refinery, the compound sweating plant, the pumping station, a Hungarian tenement and a saloon have been utterly destroyed and the contents of twenty-three huge oil tanks is still burning in a sea of flame covering over a hundred acres.

Weather Forecast for To-day.
For West Virginia--Generally fair Friday and Saturday; southwesterly winds.

For Western Pennsylvania--Showers and thunder storms Friday and Saturday; fresh southwesterly winds.

For Ohio--Fair in southern, showers and thunder storms in northern portion Friday and Saturday; fresh southwesterly winds.

Local Temperature.
The temperature yesterday, as observed by C. Schnepp, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows:

7 a. m. 81.3 p. m. 82
9 a. m. 81.3 p. m. 82
12 m. 81.3 p. m. 82

Weather--Chang's.